

Serial No. 10/730,537

Examiner: Jesse Randall Roe

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JAN 15 2008

CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing an anodized electrode comprising the sequential steps of:
 - (1) providing a substrate;
 - (2) coating the surface of the substrate by vacuum deposition thereon of a porous coating comprising at least one substance selected from valve metals, valve metal oxides and mixtures thereof;
 - (3) increasing the effective surface area of said porous coating; and
 - (4) producing electrolytically at least one anodized valve oxide layer overlaying the surface of said porous coating;and wherein said effective surface area increase of said porous coating is implemented by at least one of the following:
 - increasing the total pore volume of said porous coating;
 - increasing the average pore width in said porous coating.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, which is further characterized by at least one of the following features:
 - (a) said substrate is an electrically conductive substrate;
 - (b) said porous coating comprises at least one member selected from aluminum, aluminum oxide and mixtures thereof;
 - (c) said at least one electrolytically produced layer comprises aluminum oxide;
 - (d) said effective surface area increase has been implemented by at least one procedure selected from:
 - electrochemical etching, and
 - oxidizing the surface of said porous coating followed by removal of thus formed oxide;